

CHARFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 12th May 2009 commencing 7.30pm in the Sportsman's Lounge, Charfield Memorial Hall, Charfield

PRESENT

Parish Councillors: Mr M Rosher(Chairman),Mr R Hancock, Mrs N Newns, Mr I Kershaw, Mr P Patterson, Mr M Cheskin, Mr P Birt **Clerk:** Mrs S Bailey **Public:**Mr T Hill (Memorial Hall), Mrs S O'Neill (Ward Councillor)

8425/09 Election of Chairman It was proposed by Mrs N Newns and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** by all that Mr M Rosher be elected Chairman for a further year. Mr M Rosher agreed and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office.

8426/09 Election of Vice Chair After much debate on whether a vice chair was necessary it was proposed by Mr R Hancock and seconded by Mr P Patterson and **resolved** that Mr I Kershaw be appointed vice chair. Mr Kershaw agreed although stated that agenda meetings could not always be attended.

8427/09 Apologies for Absence noted & accepted from Mr F Carling

8428/09 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda Mr M Cheskin noted that Cemex are customers and that he would not discuss quarry activities

8429/09 Approval of Minutes

It was proposed by Mr I Kershaw and seconded by Mr M Cheskin and **resolved** that minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14th April 2009 are signed as a correct record.

8430/09 Public Participation Mrs O'Neill gave an update on various items. Light diming of crossing signals would be discussed at South Glos later this week. The Section106 agreement with Cemex/S.Glos has not yet been signed- they have 6 months to do this. The quarry has used 40 out of its 60 emergency use occasions; the situation is being closely monitored. Regarding Wessex road closure works, the photo opportunity of local MP was 3 weeks too late as the road was re-opened the following day! Locals liked the fact that larger vehicles slowed the traffic and questions rose as to whether 20mph local speed limit was a possibility. Councillors feel that Wessex Water/South Glos dealt with the road diversion signage very badly and this needs to be pointed out by letter. Problems of speeding traffic on main road through Tortworth was discussed – further S.Glos road safety measures to be undertaken here.

Mr T Hill explained that he is still unfortunately Chairman after the recent Memorial Hall AGM produced no other candidates. Also a secretary is needed. The accounts will be ready next month and will show a £1500 profit which can be reinvested in the Hall. There is a grant available from Safer Stronger Community Groups and the Memorial Hall is eligible under various criteria such as tackling antisocial behaviour, youth problems, reducing crime etc and it is thought that a grant for CCTV will be applied for.

Mr T Hill also explained the problems with the youth worker from South Glos cancelling youth group sessions at very little notice which was not providing continuity for the youth in Charfield. Mrs O'Neill to investigate. An inconclusive discussion followed regarding youth problems in the village and whether it was locals groups or not and what ages. It was noted that Bill Taylor who did litter collection & maintenance for many years had died recently of cancer. Clerk to send sympathy card on behalf of Parish Council.

8431/09 Clerks Report on MATTERS ARISING from Previous Minutes The accounts were audited this week and no issues were reported by internal auditor. The auditor noted that he could not find approval of internal auditor in the Minutes ; however it is indeed in February 2009 Minutes! He also noted that the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders need reviewing – last done 2003.

Manor Lane /Underhill Road junction – South Glos have replied saying that mirrors are not an acceptable traffic measure. Digley Associates today performed the Annual play safety inspection and the report will be available at next meeting.

8432/09 Method method of assessing planning applications A Resolution was proposed by Mr M Rosher(Standing Order 35) “that a planning committee remains in abeyance for a further year”, this was seconded by Mr M Cheskin and **resolved**.

8433/09 Inspection of Deeds & Inventory of Equipment Normally in the custody of the Clerk, these are in the process of being scanned so that they will be available electronically. A copy of the deeds schedule and the asset register was given to

Councillors. A question arose concerning the Pound and it was noted that Mr Cotterell had died recently and that the house adjacent which enjoys usage of the Pound is up for sale. Mrs S O'Neill to make informal enquiries.

8434/09 Appointment of representatives to:

Charfield School Governors – Mr P Patterson

The National School Foundation – Mr R Hancock

Charfield Memorial Hall & Playing Field Management Committee – Mr I Kershaw

South Gloucestershire Area Forum - not considered to be needed; remove from future agendas

South Gloucestershire Environmental Link Group – possibly Mr M Rosher

South Gloucestershire branch of the Avon Local Council's Association – Mr M Cheskin

Safer Stronger Community Groups – in the absence of Mrs Y Lloyd, the current representative, this is to be discussed at the next meeting.

8435/09 Update on proposed burial ground A working group meeting was held recently with the architect and councillors, and various options discussed for the site. Due to pressing work commitments Mr Jefferies has not yet produced a draft plan – expect to discuss in more detail next meeting.

8436/09 Footpaths map on website Mr M Rosher has suggested providing an information point on the Parish Council website which show local footpaths. Clerk has contacted Rights of Way Officer at South Glos for permission to use the O.S. map; this is possible but with restrictions. Mr M Rosher to put on website and then ask South Glos to check that restrictions on the licence are not being contravened. It would then be useful for visitors to the website to be able to see photos of various points in Charfield when cursor points at the footpaths map.

8437/09 Dimming/switch off crossing signals outside school at night South Glos have responded that this is technically possible and can be discussed further at the next streetlamp switch-off meeting.

8438/09 Chadra donation for new litter bin on Little Bristol Lane corner/Woodlands Rd Clerk met with Chadra to discuss location; the preferred site is where the bus collects/drops off children on corner of Woodlands road due to large amount of litter in the hedges there. Clerk to arrange installation as per S.Glos quote– Chadra donation of £421.62 cost is noted.

8439/09 Meeting of play area working group to draft toddler area design The working group met to discuss ideas. The thoughts are that a smaller version of the existing SMP multiplay is not really needed as toddlers would soon attempt that item itself. Instead, inkeeping with the Poskett bench which came from the old railway station opposite, a railway theme with a toddler train and some other items seems a good theme – Councillors approved unanimously. The toddler play tower could possibly be kept for the slide, however works would be needed – Clerk to ask new Play Inspectors if this is feasible. Springy animal may be kept too. More research on possible train play & other items needed.

8440/09 Twinning with small village in Romania Mr M Cheskin gave handouts and explained about a project already set up whereby help is given to a village called Mina-1-Mai. The possibility of exchanges was unfortunately quite small as people are relatively quite poor but the reward would be cultural exchanges and satisfaction of providing improvement in their lives. Thoughts from councillors were that as regards twinning, normally similar types of towns/villages are twinned with each other so that mutual benefits could be gained on both sides and this was not thought to actually benefit Charfield. The Clerk advised that regarding donating funds the Parish Council must demonstrate that Charfield residents would in some way benefit from this and it would be difficult to find a Power to authorise this other than the Power of Tourism – which would not really happen in this case. The actual twinning administration is also carried out by an independent organisation other than the Parish Council although it could endorse its aims. It was felt that Romania involvement was more of a personal choice than a Parish Council project.

8441/09 Assistance to local youths Mr M Cheskin had attempted to find out what the youth problems were around the Hall and a discussion ensued with Mr T Hill from the Memorial Hall answering questions. Youth activities are generally quiet at the moment and more investigations are needed.

(Mr T Hill & Mrs S O'Neill left the meeting)

8442/09 Nat West Bank Mandate for extra signatories It was agreed to update the bank mandate and each Councillor signed the new bank mandate form with the two new Councillors needing to provide more details. Clerk to complete at bank after obtaining the absent Councillors' signatures.

8443/09 Correspondence

SLCC training schedule- to be put on next agenda. Clerk to find out about new Councillor training dates
S.Glos notification of burger van application – discussion ensued as to location. Worries are that it will lead to littering of our Parish, however if South Glos were minded to grant permission then the van should make sure it clears the lay-by at the end of each session and also that the van should use traceable wrappers so that the extra litter is identifiable around the village.
CPRE renewal – to be put on next agenda
Senior Citizens Forum Grant Request – to be put on next agenda

8444/09 Items for Circulation. The following items circulated to Members including:

Periodicals/newsletters (Senior Citizens Forum, Avon Wildlife, ALCA)
Public Sector Duties Leaflet – Human Rights Commission
Notices of meetings & decisions from South Glos Council
Notice poster for European elections

8445/09 Planning Applications

PT09/0785/F The Limes, Wotton Road-erection of 1no.detached double garage. After due consideration it was **resolved** to make no objection to this application.
PT09/0778/F The Rose, Swinhay Lane-alterations & extension to roof of existing garage. After due consideration it was **resolved** to make no objection to this application.
PT09/0848/F Hill House Farm Station Rd- demolition of existing garage and erection of new building to provide home gym and storage (resubmission). After due consideration and despite the changes in the plans since last submission, it was **resolved** to objection to this application on the basis that councillors are concerned that developments at this property are becoming incompatible with domestic use. Charfield Parish Council has noticed a number of applications recently from this same property and is concerned that attempts are being made to render the building suitable for commercial uses by attempting to apply for a number of smaller seemingly inconsequential changes yet when viewed as a whole, the development appears to resemble more of a commercial setting.

8446/09 Planning Decisions none

8447/09 Reports/Notices of Meetings

Ward Councillor report – discussed during Public Participation
Charfield Playing Field – Playground Inspection Report from Mrs Y Lloyd & Mr I Kershaw. A wood splinter on the Poskett bench needs attention and more teak oil. Clerk to ask Mr J Russell. Also Clerk to ask him for a quote to repaint the hexagonal shelter. Report copy to be forwarded to Mr J Russell for attention. The SMP climbing ramps need attention – we asked for repair kit a while ago which did not arrive; Clerk to chase. A rock climb handle nut needs tightening – Mr M Rosher to do with special tool. Next inspection Mr P Patterson & Mr R Hancock.
Charfield Village Hall Management Committee. Latest report in circulation file.
Mr P Patterson put in a few notes from the Cemex meeting into the circulation file.

8448/09 Accounts It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mr R Hancock and **resolved** that the following are approved for payment:

Clerk salary & office expenses
Charfield Memorial Hall Mgmt Committee
Maintenance (litter) per week @ £20.00
16/04/09, 23/04/09, 30/04/09, 07/05/09,
Use of room 14/04/09 meeting
Tailor Made Office Supplies Ltd
A4 90g Evolve Paper 4 reamstoner
Mr J Russell – spare set of keys for PC use of Memorial Hall
Sema4Graphics PVC Banner (litter pick)
GRANTS for the new Financial Year 2009/10
Charfield Memorial Hall Management Committee
£2000 - towards replacing heating & lighting in the main hall. Await invoice presentation
Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper £40 - towards future recordings
The Alzheimers Society - £50 towards local carer activities
Charfield Cricket Club - £100 to be given towards cricket equipment
South Glos Senior Citizens - £50 towards newsletter production costs
1st Woodend Scout Group - £150 towards upgrading HQ & toilet facilities

Elderly Luncheon Club & Transport Scheme £150 split, £100 to the Luncheon Club
and £50 to the Hospital Car Transport Scheme

Donation received from Oldbury PC in respect of phone,paper,toner etc £24.94

TOTAL £1421.54

8449/09 Items To Be Raised By Members for future agenda or minor points

The grass on Manor Lane corner is unsightly and needs cutting despite daffodil leaves in situ – Clerk to ask S.Glos/contractor

The litter clean day was successful – consider an autumn clean - may be just a Saturday?

This concluded the business of the meeting, which closed at approximately 9:50 pm.

Ongoing Matters; Manor Lane Landscaping, File Storage of Deeds, Registration of The Pound, New Burial Ground, Streetlighting Reduction, toddler play area revamp

Chairman

9th June 2009